

STAFFORD COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD

Agenda Consideration


TOPIC: Naming of the High School 2005

ITEM NO: 9B

PREPARED BY: Denise Fruik
Facilities/Demographics Planner

MEETING: August 24, 2004
ACTION DATE: August 24, 2004

Scott Horan
Executive Director
Planning & Construction

Andre' A. Nougaret 
Assistant Superintendent
for Support Services

ACTION REQUESTED BY THE SUPERINTENDENT: That the School Board approve the name recommended by the High School 2005 Naming Committee.

KEY POINTS:

1. On October 28, 2003 the School Board approved Guidelines for the Naming of Stafford County Public Schools.
2. Guidelines #2 and #3 provide for a school naming committee to consist of the new high school Principal, as Chairperson, the School Board member for the district in which the new school is located, the Supervisor for the district, and a representative of the Stafford County Historical Society. (*Guidelines attached*)
3. Guideline #4 tasks the school naming committee with providing one preferred name and an alternate to the School Board for approval within forty-five days from the first meeting of the committee. The guideline further provides that "high schools will be named for the street on which the school faces or for the historical or current name of the district or community in which the school is located or after a Stafford County resident of historical significance."
4. On June 23, 2004, the 2005 High School Naming Committee, including Jim Stemple, Principal of the 2005 High School, Robert Gibbons, Supervisor for the Rockhill District, Patricia Healy, School Board Member for the Rockhill District and Jane Conner of the Stafford County Historical Society met to discuss potential names for the 2005 High School. (*Minutes attached*)
5. The committee recommends Mountain View High School as the name for the 2005 High School. All members of the committee support this recommendation, and the recommendation conforms to the Guidelines for the Naming of Stafford County Public Schools.

6. The committee chose not to provide an alternate name to the School Board at this time because Mountain View High School had the support of all committee members.

7. Citizen comments received by staff and newspaper editorials have been provided to school board members for review and consideration. (*Comments and editorials attached*)

SCHOOL BOARD GOAL: #5 – Provide facilities that promote student learning and and community support.

#7 – Provide school environments where teachers are safe to teach and students are safe to learn

FUNDING SOURCE: N/A

AUTHORIZATION REFERENCE: Guidelines for the Naming of Stafford County Public Schools: approved 10/28/03

HS2005 NAMING COMMITTEE MEETING

MINUTES

- ◆ The HS2005 Naming Committee met at 9:00a.m., June 23, 2004 at North Stafford High School.
- ◆ The committee members, the Supervisor from the Rockhill District, School Board member from the Rockhill District, HS2005 Principal and Stafford County Historical Society representative were all present. A member of the SCPS Planning and Construction staff was also in attendance.
- ◆ The committee meeting began by brainstorming possible names. Eight names were suggested for discussion:

Mountain View
Ronald Reagan
George Washington
George Mason
Moncure Conway
Tackett's Mill
Kellogg Mill
Logging Trail

- ◆ The Rockhill Supervisor disagreed with the mills as possibilities because the names would make reference to streets/locations within the county other than the location of HS2005. The other committee members agreed.
- ◆ The Historical Society representative explained the historical significance of the geographical/location names discussed and the contributions made to Stafford County by the historical persons suggested. She believed strongly that two former regional residents are deserving of having a new Stafford high school named for them.
- ◆ The Rockhill School Board member suggested that newly approved Naming Guidelines could be used to help determine a suitable name.
- ◆ The committee decided against using the names of historical persons or the former Presidents because these names were either not consistent with the naming guidelines or the current names of existing county high schools.
- ◆ The Rockhill Supervisor reopened discussion of Mountain View High School. The Rockhill Supervisor, School Board member and HS2005 Principal agreed on Mountain View High School as the preferred name for the new school. The name made an appropriate and well-known geographical reference not only for county residents but non-residents as well. It is consistent with the Naming Guidelines and the names of existing county high schools. The Historical Society representative could agree with recommending Mountain View High School with the understanding that several of the names of historic persons may be better suited to future schools in other regions of the county.
- ◆ The committee was polled, and all were in agreement that Mountain View High School be presented to the School Board at the July meeting.
- ◆ The committee then agreed that although the naming guidelines stated an alternate name be provided at the July meeting, no alternate would be provided at the July School Board meeting because Mountain View High School had the support of all committee members.

GUIDELINES FOR THE NAMING OF STAFFORD COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

1. When a new school site is purchased or a planning project for a new school is initiated, the school will be referred to by type (Elementary, Middle, High) and year of anticipated completion/opening.
2. Once a Principal is appointed for a new school, the Principal will become Chairman of a committee to name the new school.
3. The committee will include the Principal as Chairman, the School Board member for the district in which the new school will be located, the Supervisor for the district, and a representative of the Stafford Historical Society.
4. The committee will determine a preferred name for the school and one alternate name within forty-five days of the first meeting of the committee based on the following criteria:
 - Elementary schools will be named for the street on which the school faces, the historical or current name of the district or community in which the school is located or after a Stafford County resident of historical significance.
 - Middle Schools will be named for Stafford County Educators who have made significant contributions to Stafford County Schools.
 - High Schools will be named for the street on which the school faces or for the historical or current name of the district or community in which the school is located or after a Stafford County resident of historical significance.
5. School names are often strong symbols of identification for local communities. Therefore the committee should make community consultation an integral part of the naming process.
6. The preferred school name and the alternate school name will be brought before the School Board at the first meeting following the forty-five day committee term.
7. At their discretion, the Stafford County School Board may name any athletic field, special use facility or designated area within a school after a former Stafford County Schools employee or other person of historical importance who has made significant contributions to education in Stafford County.